

Appl. No. 10/006,316  
Amdt. dated January 26, 2004  
Reply to Office action dated December 12, 2003

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (canceled)

Claim 2 (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the system comprises:

at least one of a camera, an optical communication system, an imaging system, a test system, and a measurement system.

Claim 3-5 (canceled)

Claim 6 (previously presented) A system comprising:  
one or more aperture-ingress-side surfaces treated to substantially absorb light;  
one or more aperture-egress-side surfaces; and  
substantially all of said one or more aperture-ingress-side surfaces positioned such that light originating external to at least one of the one or more aperture-ingress-side surfaces is either allowed to enter an aperture ingress or is substantially reflected in a direction such that re-reflection through the aperture ingress is substantially minimized, wherein said one or more aperture-ingress-side surfaces comprise one or more curved surfaces.

Claim 7 (currently amended) The system of claim 6, wherein said one or more aperture-ingress-side surfaces positioned such that light originating external to at least one of the one or more side ingress-side surfaces positioned such that light originating external to at least one of the one or more aperture-ingress-side surfaces is either

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allowed to enter an aperture ingress or is substantially reflected in a direction such that re-reflection through the aperture ingress is substantially minimized comprises:

at least one flat surface oriented such that light rays impinging thereon are substantially reflected in a direction other than a direction from which said light rays impinged.

Claim 8 (original) The system of claim 7, wherein said at least one flat surface oriented such that light rays impinging thereon are substantially reflected in a direction other than a direction from which said light rays impinged comprises:

the at least one flat surface placed at an acute angle relative to a plane defined by an ingress of the aperture.

Claim 9 (previously presented) The system of claim 7, wherein the at least one flat surface angled such that light rays impinging thereon are substantially reflected in a direction other than a direction from which said light rays impinged comprises:

the at least one flat surface placed at an angle whereby the light rays obeying the law of reflection are directed along a path such that, absent re-reflection, the light rays will not cross a plane defined by an ingress of the aperture.

Claim 10-11 (canceled)

Claim 12 (previously presented) The system of claim 6 further comprising: an enclosure treated to substantially absorb light, said enclosure housing the system.

Claim 13 (previously presented) A system comprising:

a low-backscatter aperture structure, wherein said low-backscatter aperture structure has at least one surface oriented such that light rays impinging thereon are substantially reflected in a direction other than a direction from which said light rays impinged, said low-backscatter aperture structure including at least one flat surface treated to substantially absorb light.

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**Claim 14 (previously presented)** The system of claim 13, wherein the system comprises:

at least one of a camera, an optical communications system, an impinging system, a test system, and a measurement system.

**Claim 15 (original)** The system of claim 13, wherein said low-backscatter aperture structure comprises:

at least one flat surface oriented such that light rays impinging thereon are substantially reflected in a direction other than a direction from which said light rays impinged.

**Claim 16 (original)** The system of claim 15, wherein said at least one flat surface oriented such that light rays impinging thereon are substantially reflected in a direction other than a direction from which said light rays impinged comprises:

at least two flat surfaces forming a V shape.

**Claim 17 (original)** The system of claim 15, wherein said at least one flat surface oriented such that light rays impinging thereon are substantially reflected in a direction other than a direction from which said light rays impinged comprises:

the at least one flat surface forming a truncated cone shape.

**Claim 18 (canceled)**

**Claim 19 (original)** The system of claim 15, wherein said at least one flat surface oriented such that light rays impinging thereon are substantially reflected in a direction other than a direction from which said light rays impinged comprises:  
said at least one flat surface treated to substantially reflect light.

**Claim 20 (original)** The system of claim 13, further comprising:

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an enclosure treated to substantially absorb light.

Claim 21 (canceled)

Claim 22 (previously presented) A system having an optical train, said optical train comprising:

- a light source orientable to illuminate an aperture;
- one or more aperture-ingress-side surfaces;
- one or more aperture-egress-side surfaces:
  - said one or more aperture-ingress-side surfaces positioned such that light originating external to at least one of the one or more aperture-ingress-side surfaces is either allowed to enter an aperture ingress or is substantially reflected in a direction such that re-reflection through the aperture ingress is substantially minimized;
  - a detector orientable to capture light from the aperture; and
  - an enclosure enclosing at least one of the light source, aperture-ingress-side surface, aperture-egress-side surface, and detector, said enclosure treated to substantially absorb light.